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## REMOVAL QUESTION STIRS LEE COUNTY

Great Interest in Proposition to Change County Seat from Jonesville to Pennington Gap.

ELECTION HAS BEEN ORDERED

Writ of Prohibition Issued by Supreme Court May, However, Have Effect Upon Result.

By Robert L. Pennington.  
JONESVILLE, VA., September 13.—Great excitement has prevailed throughout Lee county for the past month or more concerning a movement, which has been on foot, championed by citizens living at Pennington Gap, seeking to obtain an election on the question of the removal of the courthouse of the County of Lee to the town of Pennington Gap, under an act passed by the last Legislature. Two weeks ago in vacation, Captain J. E. Bullitt, of Big Stone Gap, and Senator J. C. Noel, representing petitioners for the election, presented to the Hon. H. A. W. Skeen, in vacation, at Big Stone Gap, a petition asking for an election, which petition was opposed by a great number of citizens, who were represented by Hon. R. T. Irvine, of Big Stone Gap, and the local bar at Jonesville. Remonstrance was filed before the judge against the awarding of an election, which alleged that sufficient citizens had not signed the petition, and bringing into question the constitutionality of the statute in question. Grounds alleged for the unconstitutionality of this act were, first, that the act provided for the removal of the courthouse and not the county seat, remonstrants alleging that the act was not broad enough to cover the removal of the county seat, as contemplated in the Constitution, and that the act was not legally passed by the Legislature, because when the bill was before the Senate for passage the third reading, required by the Constitution, was dispensed with, Judge Noel answering, as appeared by the journal, that this was an emergency act. The Senate not stating what the emergency was through its journal, and the act not showing on its face that it was an emergency act. It was contended that the constitutional requirement of the third reading could not be avoided in the manner stated.

The act was further claimed to be unconstitutional because the title did not express all the objects contained in the act, namely, the issuing of bonds for the purpose of building a new courthouse in case of removal.

Restrained by Supreme Court.

His Honor, Judge Skeen, ruled against the contention of the remonstrants and they applied to the Supreme Court for a writ of prohibition, with the result that on Wednesday of last week, as has been reported through the papers, a temporary restraining order was entered against Judge Skeen preventing further action by him until a further disposition of the petition for writ of prohibition. In the meantime, however, on September 9th, Judge Skeen, not knowing of the order that was entered by the Supreme Court, had after an elaborate argument by counsel for petitioners, entered an order directing an election to be held upon the first day of December upon the question. A question has now arisen as to the effect which the order of the Supreme Court will have upon the order of Judge Skeen, even though the Supreme Court of Appeals should finally hold the act to be unconstitutional.

Town Over Century Old.

It is believed that in case the act should finally be held to be constitutional and an election be held thereunder, the movement to change the county seat from Jonesville to Pennington Gap would be defeated by a very large majority.

Jonesville is an old town, created by an act of the Legislature of 1794, as the result of an act passed by the Legislature of 1792, by which the county of Lee was formed by a division of Russell county. Jonesville was selected as the county seat in 1792, and the town duly incorporated by the Legislature in 1794. Frederick Jones, who owned the land on which the town is situated at the head of his historic and beautiful Powell's Valley, stretching from the west of this old town, lies the fertile and beautiful valley. The landscape view is not surpassed by any in the State. Jonesville has been the central point of county affairs for over 100 years, as to its courts, its political, religious and educational gatherings. The town is situated five miles from the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, has a population of about 700 people, has two banks, a training school, known as Jonesville Institute, the property of the Southern Methodist Church, the county fair grounds, splendid homes, and well-to-do people. The town being distinctly a county seat town and its citizens being held together principally upon removal of the county seat from the old town would result in its destruction within a few years. Recently the citizens of Jonesville, by private subscription principally, undertook to construct a first-class grade and macadamized road from Ben Hur, on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, to Jonesville, and this road is now under course of construction under the supervision of Captain J. St. J. Wilson, State Highway Commissioner, and the work is progressing very rapidly and is expected to be completed by the first of December. The grading will be completed by the first of October.

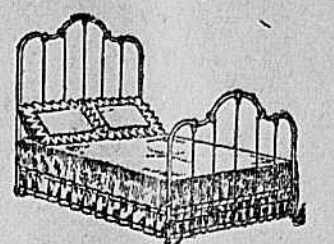
To Have Good Roads.

The people of Jonesville, together with a number of enterprising citizens living in different sections of the county, have for the past three or four years been at work to procure a system of roads throughout the county, and this ambition on their part is about to be realized in four out of five of the magisterial districts, and an order has been entered under an act passed by the last Legislature upon a petition of several hundred freeholders of the county, directing an election upon the question of the issuance of \$50,000 of bonds in the Rose Hill District; \$50,000 in the White Shoals District; \$75,000 in the Jonesville District, and \$75,000 in the Yokum Station District, making a total bond issue of \$250,000. It is proposed with this money to macadamize the principal roads of these districts and to improve the other roads leading into them by putting them upon a maximum grade of three degrees. This leaves only one district in the county, that of Rocky Station District, in which the town of Pennington Gap is located, and the only reason why the citizens of this district did not petition for an election on a \$75,000 issuance of bonds was the question of the removal of the courthouse, in which the citizens of that district are interested more than any other. Yet a

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\$7.00 White Enamelled Iron Bed reduced to..... \$3.95  
\$8.50 Heavy Post Iron Bed reduced to..... \$4.95  
\$14 Brass-trimmed Iron Bed reduced to..... \$7.00  
\$20 Iron and Brass Bed reduced to..... \$12.50

## Chiffonieres



We have a large stock of Chiffoniers on hand, which we will sell out at prices never before attempted. We have them in Plain Oak, Quarter Sawn and Polished Oak.  
A 5-Drawer Solid Oak, with mirror, at only..... \$7.50  
A 5-Drawer Solid Oak, with French Plate Mirror at only..... \$8.85  
A 6-Drawer, swelled front, highly polished, \$14.00 article for only..... \$9.50

## China Closets



An exquisite and dainty line, the market's choicest in these goods. To be had during this sale only at prices that will close them out in a hurry. Be on hand early if you want one of these.

Our regular \$20.00 China Closets cut to..... \$12.75  
Our regular \$25.00 China Closets cut to..... \$17.25  
Our regular \$28.00 value cut to..... \$19.50  
Our regular \$31.50 value cut to..... \$22.75

## Morris Chairs



Regular \$12.00 Morris Chairs, solid Quartered Oak. Our sale..... \$6.95  
Regular \$15.00 Morris Chair, Mahogany finish. Our sale..... \$7.93  
Regular \$20.00 Morris Chair. Price..... \$10.50  
Regular \$25.00 Morris Chair. Price..... \$12.25

## Sideboards



Everybody can have a Sideboard when they can buy one at such a low price.  
Solid Quarter Sawn Oak Sideboard, Regular value \$15.00. Price..... \$7.95  
Regular value, \$20.00..... \$11.35  
Regular \$25.00 value..... \$14.95  
Regular \$50.00 value..... \$12.75  
And up to \$75.00.  
Be on hand early. They won't last long.

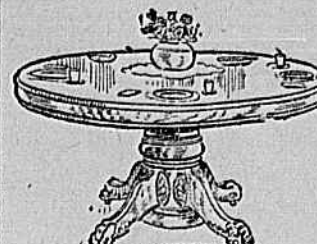
## Bed-Room Suits

3-piece Bed-Room Suit; \$21.00 value for..... \$15.00  
3-piece Bed-Room Suit; \$24.00 value for..... \$18.89  
3-piece Bed-Room Suit; \$32.00 value for..... \$22.00  
3-piece Bed-Room Suit; \$36.00 value for..... \$28.89  
Other high-grade values, ranging in prices from \$15.00 to \$50.00, at a saving of from 50 to 75 per cent.

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Extra Special..... \$6.50  
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\$25.00 Dresser..... \$12.50  
Look in Our Window.

## Dining-Room Tables



Here is where you can make your money do double duty.  
A regular \$19.50 value at \$5.50 only.....  
Six-foot Golden Oak, highly polished, a beauty at \$12.00, for \$6.75 only.....  
Solid Oak, round and square style. Our \$15.00 leader—\$8.35 At only.....  
Also a beautiful line of Pedestal Tables, round, square and oval tops, heavy claw or ball feet, hand rubbed and polished, all to be closed out during this sale, from \$9.00 down to \$12.00.

All Go-Carts at One-third to One-half Off Marked Prices.

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Express prepaid on following goods:

TYSON'S BEST (straight), 10 years

old Mt. Whiskey, 4 full qts..... \$4.00

TYSON'S CLUB WHISKY, 4 full qts..... \$5.00

Every drop of Tyson's Club Whiskey guaranteed to be pure and better than whiskey sold by other houses at \$4.00.

TYSON'S NORFOLK WHISKY, 4 full qts..... \$2.75

This brand is equal to any \$3.50 whiskey on the market.

TYSON'S EXPOSITION WHISKY, per gallon..... \$2.50

This brand of whiskey is strong, has a good flavor, and is liked everywhere. Order a gallon and be convinced this is the lowest-priced whiskey house in the country.

TYSON'S PURE CORN WHISKY, 4 full qts..... \$3.00

TYSON'S PURE WHITE CORN, per gallon..... \$2.50

TYSON'S PURE GIN per gallon..... \$3.50

TYSON'S HARBOR STOCK GIN, per gallon..... \$2.50

TYSON'S PURE APPLE BRANDY, per gallon..... \$4.00

TYSON'S STAR BRANDY, per gallon..... \$2.50

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large number of influential citizens in the Rocky Station District desire at the present time, to have an election on the question, but fear in the present state of excitement over the courthouse removal matter that the vote will be lost, and prefer to defer it until after the courthouse question is finally settled.

To Grow in Wealth.

With the system of roads laid out by the proposer of the road movement, the county of Lee bids fair to become one of the most wealthy sections of the State.

It is blessed with a fine blue grass limestone soil throughout the southern part of the county, including Powell's Valley, Hickory Flat and Turkey Cove country. On the northern side of the county are situated the vast coal fields, and the opportunity of the farmer to market his products at home, and it is believed that before the year 1909 shall have begun the Rocky Station district will demand an election upon the question, because in that district, on the southern end of it, are located some of the very finest farming lands in the county, and these farmers must necessarily have roads leading to the railroad in order to

said that while not the most extensive coal plant in the world, this company can boast of having the most complete and most handsomely equipped coal operation in the world. Some twenty-five different coal operations are now in working order, which will, in the near future, employ a host of men; which will give to the farming section of this county the very best market possible for farm products, and this, when the system of roads is complete, will make the Lee county farmer most fortunately located. The prices of land in Lee county are already advancing on the strength of the prospect of good roads, and the opportunity of the farmer to market his products at home, and it is believed that before the year 1909 shall have begun the Rocky Station district will demand an election upon the question, because in that district, on the southern end of it, are located some of the very finest farming lands in the county, and these farmers must necessarily have roads leading to the railroad in order to

bring their products to the nearby market.

Coming County Fair.

The Lee County Fair, which is to be held on October 1st, 2d and 3d, is to have one day devoted to a good roads convention, at which public-spirited men will deliver addresses to the people, among which will be an address from General R. A. Ayers, of Big Stone Gap.

A farmers' institute will also be held on October 3d, under the supervision of Hon. G. W. Kolner, Commissioner of Agriculture, at which the various subjects of fruit growing, stock feeding and other farm topics will be considered and discussed, not only by Mr. Kolner, but also by a number of competent men under his supervision.

It is being alleged by the petitioners for the courthouse removal that the Jonesville people are agitating the road question in order to prevent the courthouse coming, but the Jonesville people have met this argument by saying that they began on the good roads movement before there was ever any act passed by the Legislature authorizing any such election, and it is a well known fact that this is true, which is substantiated by the records of the court of the county and the establishment of some of the chief roads on which the attorneys have been working for years.

Has Stirred the People Up. The Legislature could not have enacted a statute which would have stirred the people and disturbed the condition of things more than in the passage of this act.

The people of Jonesville are alleging that this act was passed upon at the close of the session of the Legislature, and that the people did not have the opportunity to present to the proper committee before which it was referred objections to such legislation, and great blame is being laid upon the heads of those who dispensed with the constitutional requirement of the Senate. People of Lee county feel that their county seat, being located in almost the exact center of the county, and being equipped with sufficient buildings to transact the business of the county, this question should not be agitated to the division of the people of the county and the creation of factions which will injure public improvement along various lines. A general law for the removal of courthouses of the State in the various counties should have received the most careful consideration, and should not have been passed as hasty legislation, because these fights bring up the most bitter contentions and result in the complete division of the people, and while it is not the purpose of the writer here to criticize the honorable body which passed this legislation, I believe that it does deserve having its constitutionality and its manner in which this bill was put through the Legislature, with its many inaccuracies and impracticable provisions. The Leg-

islature needs to be criticized again for dispensing with the constitutional readings, except in the case of actual necessity. It will be observed by the reading of the journals of the House and Senate that many bills were passed as emergency bills, when such is not expressed upon their face, and when, in fact, no such emergency actually existed. It is a violation of the spirit, if not the letter, of our Constitution, and whatever the Court of Appeals may hold upon the rights of the legislative body to declare an emergency to exist without stating the reason, and without such emergency actually existing, the Legislature ought not to dispense with this constitutional provision without there being an actual necessity and emergency for the case in hand; and the people of Virginia should rise up against such legislation and refuse to elect those to office who will thus deprive them of the publicity which the Constitution is supposed to give to proposed laws before they are actually passed.

Southern Farm Life.

President Roosevelt has named a commission to reform farm life, especially in the South. This commission consists of two professors in New York and Massachusetts, a magazine editor in New York, an Iowa editor and Forest Service Pinchot, also of New York. "Such a commission," says the Birmingham Age-Herald, "is well fitted to reform the outlying farms of Greater New York, but it would not know a well-to-do farm in the West or South if it saw it coming down the pike."

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